GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2660
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2007
BAN ON IMPORT OF PRAWNS
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Australia has banned import of prawns from India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total quantity of seafood exported to Australia from India during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government and Marine Product Export Development Authority(MPEDA) to help the seafood growers in the light of this ban?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise. However all prawn and prawn product exports to Australia carry a certificate of fitness for human consumption and also certify that it has been cooked in approved premises to a minimum time and temperature standard.

(c) Details are Annexed.

(d) MPEDA is adopting several measures to help promote sustainable Aquaculture in the coastal states including Andhra Pradesh. These include dissemination of better management practices for control of disease, production of SPF(Specific Pathogen Free) brood stock, code of practice for production of disease free seed and farm management, comprehensive health management strategy, labeling to address traceability concerns and submission of periodical Annual Health Reports to the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE), Network of Aquaculture Centres for Asia and Pacific (NACA) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).